**Decline in Imports**

41. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in India's total imports during the period April-December, 91 as compared to the period from April-December, 90; and

(b) what are the names of the countries and products where the decline has taken place and their value in both years in US dollars?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) India's imports during April-December, 1991 amounted to US S 17962 million as compared to US$ 14272 million during April-December, 1990, thereby registering a decline of 20.5% in dollar terms.

(b) The country and commodity details are available for period April-November, 1991. A statement indicating the names of the countries and products where the decline has taken place and their value in US dollar during April-November, 1991 is attached.

**Statement**

*Import of Principal Commodities: April-November 1991-92*

(US $ Million)

| S.No. | Commodities | April-Nov. 1990 (P) | April-Nov. 1991 (P) | %age Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I. | TOTAL IMPORTS | 15409.90 | 12380.92 | -20.7 |
| II. | BULK IMPORTS | 6682.92 | 5419.51 | -18.9 |
| | i) Cereal & Cereal preparation | 66.59 | 38.93 | -41.5 |
| | ii) Fertilizer | 702.96 | 721.49 | +2.6 - |
| | a)Crude | 142.55 | 128.56 | 9.8 - |
| | b)Sulphur & Unroasted iron | 104.00 | 83.10 | 20.1 |
| | pyrites c) Manufactured | 456.41 | 509.83 | + 11.7 |
| | iii) Edible Oil | 138.70 | 53.91 | -61.1 |
| | iv) Sugar | 5.28 | 0.21 | +96.0 |
| | v) Pulp & waste paper | 170.50 | 77.25 | -54.7 |
| | vi) Paper board and Manufactures | 63.65 | 40.17 | -36.9 |
| | vii) Newsprint | 107.37 | 110.10 | +2.5 |
| | viii) Crude Rubber | 93.63 | 44.56 | -52.4 |
| | ix) Non-ferrous Metals | 424.81 | 208.04 | -51.0 |
| | x) Metalliferrous ores and Metal Scrap | 468.28 | 219.27 | -53.2 |
| | xi) Iron & Steel | 763.28 | 573.93 | -24.0 |
| | ni) Petroleum, crude ' & products | 3677.87 | 3325.78 | -9.6 |
| III. | PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES | 1321.62 | 1324.64 | +0.2 |
| rv. | MACHINERY | 2768.64 | 1688.31 | -39.0 |
| | i) Machine Tools | 153.48 | 116.99 | -23.8 |
| | ii) Machinery other than electrical | 1294.87 | 937.52 | -27.6 |
| | iii) Electrical Machinery | 647.13 | 372.89 | -42.4 |
| v. | iv) Transport Equipment | 673.16 | 260.91 | -61.2 |
| | PROJECT GOODS | 689.23 | 850.40 | +23.4 |
| VI. | OTHERS (of which) | 4147.50 | 3098.06 | -25.3 |
| | i) Wool raw | 72.06 | 477.00 | +561.9 |
| | ii) Silk raw | 40.55 | 33.89 | -16.4 |
| | iii) Synthetic & regenerated fibres | 23.71 | 14.40 | -39,3 |
| | iv) Pulses v) Coal, coke and briquettes | 179.07 288.52 | 26829 | -59.4 - 7.0 |
| | vi) Non-Metallic Mineral manufactures | 87.34 | 56.74 | -35.0 |
| | vii) Other Crude Minerals | 70.44 | 52.61 | -25.3 |
| | viii) Organic and inorganic chemicals | 1045.99 | 897.78 | -14.2 |
| | be) Dying tanning and colouring materials | 67.06 | 42.29 | -36.9 |
| | x) Medicinal and Pharmaceutical products | 119.15 | 111.76 | -6.2 |
| | xi) Artificial resins, plastic materials | 383.% | 367.26 | -4.3 |
| | xii) Chemical materials and products | 104*20 | 73.09 | -29.9 |
| | xiii) Textile[1] yarn, fabrics and made-up articles | 182.67 | 98.44 | -46.1 |
| | ixv) Manufactures of metals | 137.01 | 93.59 | -31.7 |
| | ix) Professional instruments etc. | 410.15 | 271.19 | -33.9 |

*Imports by Regions and Principal Countries: April-November 1991*

(US S Million)

| | | April Nov | Apr.-Nov. 91 | %age 90 Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| I. | WEST EUROPE | | 4959.25 | 3934.49 - |
| 0) | ECM | | 4495.15 | 3575.69 »- |
| | (a) Belgium | | 955.34 | 880.50 -7.8 |
| | (b) France | | 527.88 | 349.47 -33.8 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | (c) FRG | 1155.98 | 927.08 | -19.8 |
| | (d) May | 394.82 | 315.43 | -20.1 |
| | (e) Netherlands | 266.67 | 180.56 | -32.3 |
| | (f) UK | 1042.68 | 831.68 | -20.2 |
| | | | 309.12 | -21.0 |
| (ii) | EFTA | 391.44 | 309.12 | -21.0 |
| | (a) Sweden | 123.56 | 114.24 | -7.5 |
| | (b) Switzerland | 150.76 | 88.83 | -41.1 |
| (iii) | OTHERS | 72.66 | 49.67 | -31.6 |
| II. | ASIA & OCEANIA | 6452.32 | 5442.44 | -15.7 |
| (i) | ESCAP | 3570.40 | 2858.79 | -19.9 |
| | (a) Australia | 556.03 | 393.10 | -29.3 |
| | (b) Iran | 343.35 | 370.73 | +8.0 |
| | (t) Japan | 1176.38 | 911.09 | -22.6 |
| | (d) Korea, Rep. of | 220.05 | 189.45 | -13.9 |
| | (e) Malaysia | 375.65 | 220.58 | -41.3 |
| | (f) Singapore | 442.43 | 417.46 | -5.6 |
| | (g) Nepal | 13.91 | 20.73 | -49.0 |
| | (h) Hongkong | 110.69 | 64.32 | 41.9 |
| | (i) ThaUand | 44.07 | 30.36 | -31.1 |
| (ii) | Rest of Asia & Oceania | 2881.91 | 2583.65 | -10.3 |
| | (a) Kuwait | 205.98 | 93.18 | -54.8 |
| | (b) Saudi Arabia | 952.86 | 938.96 | -1.5 |
| | (c) U.A.E. | 707.66 | 846.14 | + |
| III. | AFRICA | 501.13 | 524.68 | 4.7 |
| | (i) Egypt | 25.17 | 44.35 | +76.2 |
| | (ii) Morocco | 137.16 | 231.45 | +68.7 |
| IV | AMERICA | 2437.48 | 1719.78 | -29.4 |
| | (i) North America | 2094.55 | 1477.45 | -29.5 |
| | (a) Canada | 214.02 | 191.48 | -10.5 |
| | (b) USA | 1880.55 | 1285.97 | -31.6 |
| (ii) | South America | 263.62 | 190.68 | -27.7 |
| (iii) | Other American & Caribbean Countries | 79.31 | 51.66 | -34.9 |
| V. | EAST EUROPE | 1262.31 | 756.57 | -40.1 |
| | (i) Ruppe payment Countries | 1122.32 | 648.15 | -42.2 |
| | (a) USSR | 954.26 | 599.08 | -37.2 |
| | (b) Others | 168.07 | 49.07 | -70.8 |
| (ii) | Non Rupee Payment Countries | 139.99 | 108.42 | -22.6 |
| | (a) Yugoslavia | 62.14 | 33.77 | -45.7 |
| | GRAND TOTAL (Incl. Others) | 15609.90 | 12380.92 | -20.7 |

(P): Provisional
Source : DGCI&S.

**Calcutta Export and Import in Rupee and Dollar**

42. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what were India's total exports and imports during the period April-December, 1991 in terms of rupees and US dollars;

(b) what was the trade gap again in rupees and US dollars;

(c) what are the comparable figures for the year 1990;

(d) what were the exports and imports in both the years in US dollars to and from the General Currency Area;

(e) whether there is a decline in exports to the General Currency Area; and

(f) if so, the products and markets which have registered this decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The details of exports, imports and trade deficit, in Ruppes and Dollars for the period April-December, 1991, with comparable figures for April-December, 1990 are given below:

| | Rupees Crores | | U Dolla , | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Apr.-Dec. 1990 | Apr.-1991 | A -Dec. 1990 | Apr.-1991 |
| EXPORTS | | | | |
| GCA | 18785 | 27133 | 1063 | 11310 |
| RPA | 4404 | 3199 | 2494 | 1333 |
| TOTAL | 23189 | 30332 | 1312 | 12643 |
| IMPORTS | | | | |
| GCA | 29472 | 32516 | 1668 | 13553 |
| RPA | 2252 | 1722 | 1275 | 718 |
| TOTAL | 31724 | 34238 | 17961 | 14271 |
| TRADE DEFICIT | 8535 | 3906 | 4832 | 1628 |

(e) No, Sir. The exports to the General Currency Area increased by 44.44% in Rupee Terms and 6.34% in Dollar Terms.

(f) Does not arise.

**Loss due to fraud in import of Newsprint**

43. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India suffered a loss of foreign exchange to the extent of Rs. 3 crores due to fraud in import of newsprint recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against officials found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Govemment have noted a newspaper report dated Feb., 9, 1992 that a "massive fraud in newsprint import involving a loss of atleast Rs. 3 crores worth of foreign exchange in a single deal has come to light."

Assuming that the Question relates to the same matter, the facts are as follows:-

(i) STC purchased 9000 MTs of glazed